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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/087,492	03/01/2002	Robert A. Cordery	F-285	4051
919	7590	02/01/2006	EXAMINER	
PITNEY BOWES INC. 35 WATERVIEW DRIVE P.O. BOX 3000 MSC 26-22 SHELTON, CT 06484-8000			KRONENTHAL, CRAIG W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2627	

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Supplemental</b> <b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/087,492	CORDERY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Craig W. Kronenthal	2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/21/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 5-13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/21/05</u></li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

JOSEPH MANCUSO  
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 2, 3, and 5-13 depend from claim 1, and therefore, are allowed.

Independent claim 1 recites the limitations of: splitting a 2D filtered bar code into an equal first part and an equal second part wherein each part has an upper and lower portion such that the lower portion of the first part and the upper portion of the second part will be white. The combination of these features as cited in the claims and in combination with the other limitations of the claim, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record.

2. Applicant's information disclosure statement filed November 21, 2005, has been entered and considered. The disclosed reference, USPN 5,946,414 to Cass et. (hereinafter Cass), is not believed to disclose the limitation of splitting a 2D filtered bar code. The examiner recognizes Cass' teaching to divide a signal block into four sections with the lower left and upper right sections empty (see Figure 2). However, the examiner does not believe that Cass suggests or provides motivation to substitute a signal block with a 2D bar code.

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Roberts (PN 6,882,442) is cited for teaching a bar code rendering including dividing bar codes into equal parts.
- Muratani (PN 6,768,807) is cited for teaching a spreading a digital watermark.
- Rhoads et al. (PN 6,636,615) is cited for teaching detecting a change in appearance in order to detect a copy image.
- Ulvr et al. (PN 6,415,983) is cited for teaching embedding a 2D bar code on a stamp.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### **Contact Information**

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Craig W. Kronenthal whose telephone number is (571) 272-7422. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm / Mon. - Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

January 26, 2006  
Craig Kronenthal



JOSEPH MANCUSO  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER